

**Amendments to the claims:**

1           1. (Currently Amended) A method for determining status of a project, the method  
2 comprising:

3                   collecting data of the project, the data being structured as branches and leaves for  
4 generating leaf and branch metrics;

5                   computing from the project data the leaf and branch metrics;

6                   computing at least two project progress parameters based upon the leaf and branch  
7 metrics ~~project summary data of a project~~ for numerically describing elements of the project;

8                   computing regression parameters based upon the at least two project progress  
9 parameters wherein the two project progress parameters are based upon the leaf and branch metrics;

10                   computing correlation coefficients utilizing the regression parameters, the correlation  
11 coefficients describing the strength of the correlation of the at least two project progress parameters  
12 with the leaf and branch metrics for indicating the status of the project;

13                   ~~collecting data of the project, the data being structured as branches and leaves;~~

14                   wherein the branches are representative of structure components of a requirements  
15 document, and the leaves are representative of content components of the requirements document;  
16 and

17                   wherein the steps of computing the at least two project progress parameters,  
18 computing the regression parameters, computing the correlation coefficients, and collecting data of  
19 the project are performed over a computer network.

1           2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the project progress parameters include at  
2 least one of the following:

3 total number of branches,  
4 total number of leaves,  
5 number of modifications performed on the branches,  
6 number of modifications performed on the leaves,  
7 average age of leaves in the project, and  
8 average age of branches in the project.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the stability of the project is determined by  
2 utilizing at least one of the following equations:

3 normal equations used in regression analysis,  
4 slope of the regression model equation,  
5 intercept of the regression model equation, and  
6 correlation coefficient of the regression equation.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2 updating at least one database with data records generated from performing statistical  
3 analysis on the collected data.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the collecting of data includes at least one of  
2 the following steps:

3 reading data from a data file or database; or  
4 receiving data across a network.

1 6. (Canceled)

1           7. (Presently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising outputting the data  
2 records to graphically represent the status of the project.

1           8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the project includes at least one  
2 of the following:

3                 the requirements document,

4                 a specification document,

5                 a proposal document,

6                 a request for proposal document,

7                 a sales performance document,

8                 a manufacturing process,

9                 an accounting system,

10                a distribution system, and

11                a software development project.

1           9. (Currently Amended) A method for analyzing progress of a project, comprising:

2                 collecting data of the project, the data structured as branches and leaves;

3                 parsing the data of the project to produce first data records summarily describing the  
4 data of the project and generating leaf and branch metrics;

5                 computing from the project data the leaf and branch metrics;

6                 computing second data records based on the first data records, the second data  
7 records including statistical data based upon the leaf and branch metrics ~~describing the first data~~  
8 ~~records;~~

9 computing third data records, the third data records including statistical results based  
10 upon the second data records and being indicative of the progress of the project;

11 wherein the third data records are computed using regression analysis, the regression  
12 analysis being performed based upon the leaf and branch metrics to facilitate daily project progress  
13 assessments and forecast the need for additional resources;

14 wherein the branches are representative of structure components of a requirements  
15 document, and the leaves are representative of content components of the requirements document;  
16 and

17 wherein the steps of collecting the data, parsing the data, computing the second data  
18 records, and computing the third data records are performed over a computer network.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the collecting of data includes at least one of  
2 the following steps:

3 reading data from a data file or database; or

4 receiving data across a network.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the second and third data records are stored  
2 in a database.

1 12. (Canceled).

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the statistical results are time dependent.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the third data records have a  
2 dependent relation between the progress of the project.

1           15. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising outputting at least one of the  
2 following: the second and third data records.

1           16. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the first, second, and third data records are  
2 structured as objects.

1           17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the project is formatted  
2 according to a content markup language format.

1           18. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising computing correlation coefficients  
2 based upon the third data records.

1           19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the project includes at least one  
2 of the following:

3                   the requirements document,  
4                   a specification document,  
5                   a proposal document,  
6                   a request for proposal document,  
7                   a sales performance document,  
8                   a manufacturing process,  
9                   an accounting system, and  
10                  a distribution system.

1           20. (Currently Amended) A system for determining status of a project,  
2                  the system comprising:

3 at least a first processor for executing processes;  
4 at least a first memory device connected to the at least first processor; and  
5 a plurality of processes stored on the at least a first memory device, the plurality of  
6 processes configured to cause the at least first processor to:  
7 collect data of the project, the data being structured as branches and leaves for  
8 generating leaf and branch metrics;  
9 compute the leaf and branch metrics from the project data;  
10 compute at least two project progress parameters based upon the leaf and branch  
11 metrics summary data of a project for numerically describing elements of the project;  
12 compute regression parameters based upon the at least two project progress  
13 parameters wherein the at least two project progress parameters are based upon the leaf and branch  
14 metrics;  
15 compute correlation coefficients utilizing the regression parameters, the correlation  
16 coefficients describing the strength of the correlation of the at least two project progress parameters  
17 with the leaf and branch metrics for indicating the status of the project; and  
18 ~~collect data of the project, the data being structured as branches and leaves; and~~  
19 wherein the branches are representative of structure components of a requirements  
20 document, and the leaves are representative of content components of the requirements document.

1 21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the project progress parameters include at  
2 least one of the following:  
3 total number of branches,  
4 total number of leaves,

5                    number of modifications performed on the branches,  
6                    number of modifications performed on the leaves,  
7                    average age of leaves in the project, and  
8                    average age of branches in the project.

1            22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the status of the project is  
2 determined by utilizing at least one of the following equations:

3                    normal equations used in regression analysis,  
4                    slope of the regression model equation,  
5                    intercept of the regression model equation, and  
6                    correlation coefficient of the regression equation.

1            23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the plurality of processes are  
2 further configured to cause the at least a first processor to:

3                    update at least one database with data records  
4                    generated from performing statistical analysis on the collected data.

1            24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the at least first processor further collects  
2 data by performing at least one of the following:

3                    reading data from a data file or database; or  
4                    receiving data across a network.

1            25. (Canceled)

1           26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the plurality of processes are  
2 further configured to cause the at least a first processor to:

3                   output the data records to graphically represent the status of the project.

1           27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the project includes at least one  
2 of the following:

3                   the requirements document,

4                   a specification document,

5                   a proposal document,

6                   a request for proposal document,

7                   a sales performance document,

8                   a manufacturing process,

9                   an accounting system, and

10                  a distribution system.

1           28. (Currently Amended) A system for determining status of a project, the system  
2 comprising:

3                   means for collecting data of the project, the data being structured as branches and  
4 leaves for generating leaf and branch metrics;

5                   means for computing the leaf and branch metrics from the project data;

6                   means for computing at least two project progress parameters based upon the leaf  
7 and branch metrics ~~project summary data of a project~~ for numerically describing elements of the  
8 project;



9                    means for computing regression parameters based upon the at least two project  
10 progress parameters wherein the two project progress parameters are based upon the leaf and branch  
11 metrics;

12                    means for computing correlation coefficients utilizing the regression parameters, the  
13 correlation coefficients describing the strength of the correlation of the at least two project progress  
14 parameters with the leaf and branch metrics for indicating the stability of the project;

15                    ~~means for collecting data of the project, the data being structured as branches and~~  
16 ~~leaves; and~~

17                    wherein the branches are representative of structure components of a requirements  
18 document, and the leaves are representative of content components of the requirements document.